

1979

M.S in Criminal Justice

Nova University

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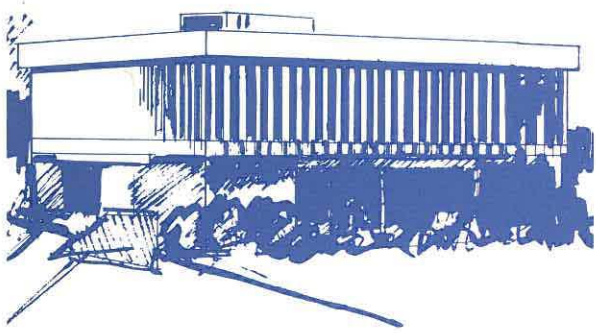
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE



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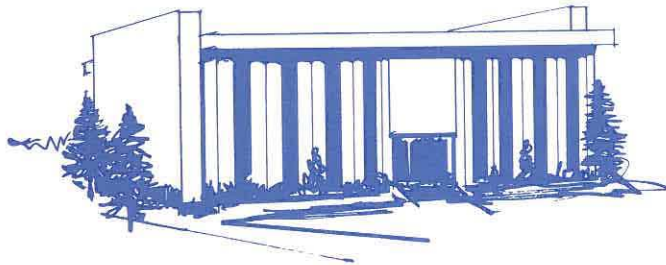
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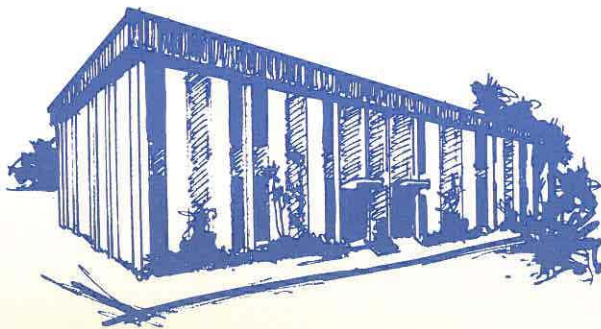
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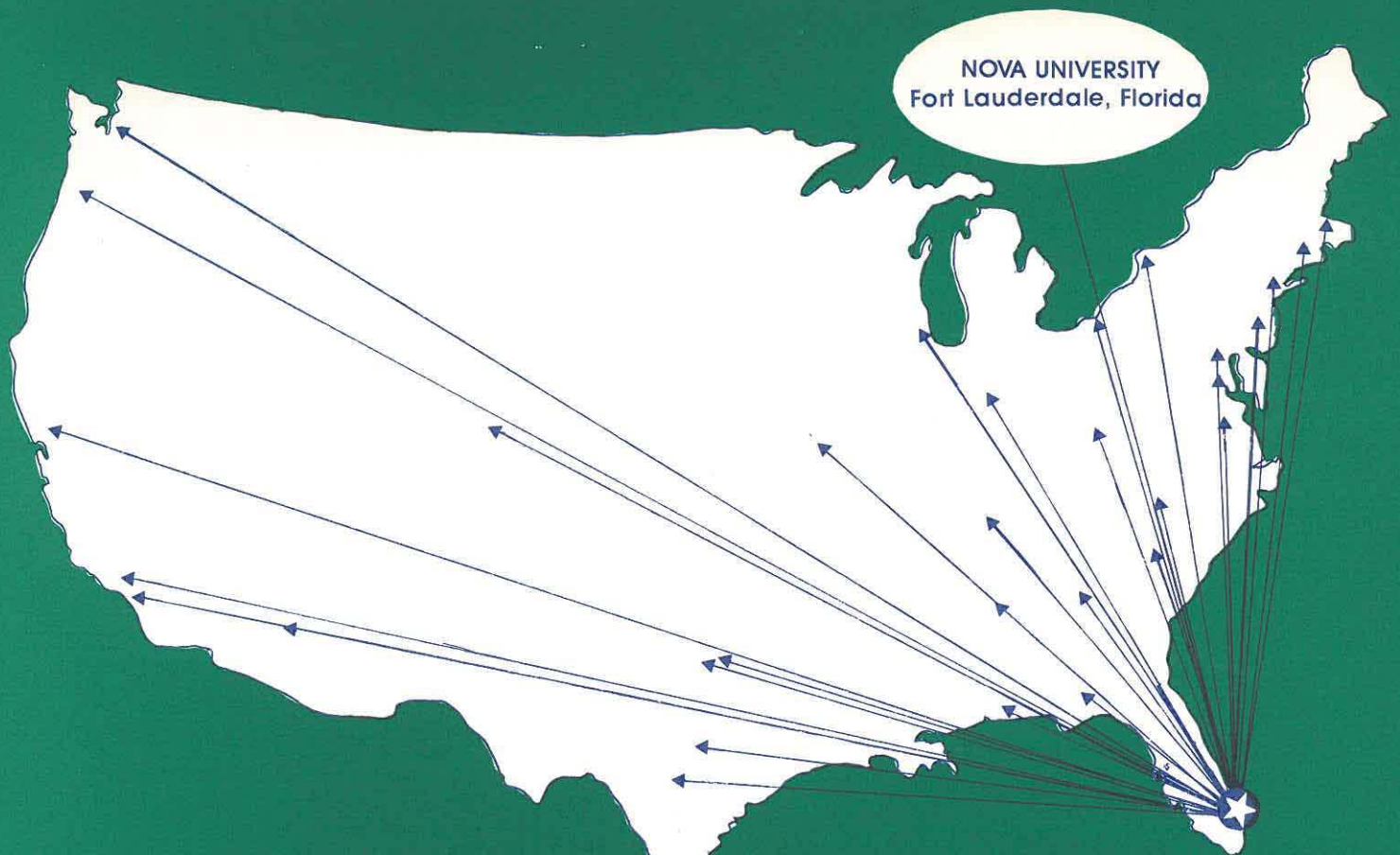
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NOVA UNIVERSITY OFFERS YOU

- A nationwide delivery system for high quality professional education leading to a master of science degree in Criminal Justice.
- An opportunity to undertake career enhancing advanced academic work without interruption of your present employment.
- A nationally recognized faculty of instructors and practitioners in the field of Criminal Justice management.
- An innovative educational experience which integrates classroom and career skills to produce competent systems-oriented Criminal Justice personnel.

AN OVERVIEW OF THE MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Master of Science Program in Criminal Justice is a career-related program with emphasis placed on a systems approach to criminal justice. The program is interdisciplinary in nature. It consists of 36 graduate credits and a Criminal Justice Practicum. It has been designed primarily for criminal justice personnel, though it is adaptable to the needs of pre-service students as well. The curriculum has been devised to serve all the needs of criminal justice students, regardless of their career orientation. The primary objectives of the program are: to explore new approaches to the improvement of the criminal justice system; to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to assume administrative roles in their employing agencies; and to provide them with the basis for a teaching career in criminal justice.

The criminal justice faculty are top personnel drawn from a national pool of scholars and

professionals noted for their applied teaching, research accomplishments, publications and administrative experience. During class periods, theory and practice will be related by placing emphasis on discussion, basing it on the participants' experiences and on local situations which have actually arisen. Participants will learn more from a stimulating group analysis than from a lecture; thus, a special effort is made to bridge the gap between the world of the practitioner and the world of the scholar. To achieve this, each participant will be required to complete outside reading assignments covering the concepts and issues which to him appear most pertinent in the context of experience. These readings will be used as the basis for seminar discussions. Participants who are particularly qualified in specific areas will be given opportunities to make special contributions to the seminar sessions.

THE NOVA CLUSTER PROGRAM

LOCAL AND NATIONAL CLUSTERS

Instead of bringing students to courses, Nova University organizes students into regional clusters. Each cluster is made up of a maximum of 30 participants. Clusters meet in major cities throughout the nation, where participants develop close relationships to which all contribute and from which all benefit.

WEEK-END COURSE SEMINARS

Each study area is designed to be covered in a three-month period. Instruction is conducted in four week-end (Friday evening and all day Saturday) intensive seminars under the direction of the national lecturer. In addition, one evening each month is devoted to a workshop session.

I. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission requirements for the student wishing to matriculate for the Master of Science in Criminal Justice are:

1. A Baccalaureate Degree (or its equivalent) from an accredited college.
2. Three letters of reference (academic or career).
3. The intellectual capacity and motivation to pursue graduate work as determined by credentials and in interview.
4. A minimum of 18 undergraduate credits in Criminal Justice courses or a related area. (The 18 hour undergraduate

requirement may be waived for individuals employed with a criminal justice agency.)

II. MASTERS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

To complete the Master of Science Program in Criminal Justice, a student is required to complete successfully 36 specified credit hours of study. In addition, the Masters Practicum is required of all students. A student who successfully completes six semester hours of graduate credits each term will be able to satisfy the course requirements in 18 months.

III. STUDENT COSTS

Tuition for the Master of Science in Criminal Justice is \$70 per credit hour (\$420 per term). The one time, non-refundable application fee is \$15; and the graduation fee is \$30. There is a \$15.00 non-refundable registration fee each term.

IV. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Students who may be eligible for Veterans Administration benefits are invited to consult the VA counselor at the University. Individuals can also be assisted in applying for low cost Federally Insured Student Loans.

THE CURRICULUM BY TERM

TERM I

CJ 600 Crime and Justice in America (3 credits)

Purpose: To provide a frame of reference for students with regard to the status of crime and justice in America and to provide an overview of the sequence of courses in the degree programs leading to the Master of Science in Criminal Justice.

Objectives: At the conclusion of this course students will be knowledgeable about:

- 1) social motivations and processes which promote conformity and deviance;
- 2) the nature of deviant behavior;
- 3) society's historical and contemporary response to deviant behavior;
- 4) the systems theory of criminal justice, its strengths and weaknesses and its successes and failures;
- 5) the interrelationships and interdependence of the components of criminal justice;
- 6) some of the major contemporary issues in the administration of justice.

CJ 601 Policy Issues in Crime Control (3 credits)

Purpose: To acquaint students with contemporary efforts, strategies and ideas directed toward the control and reduction of crime by all components of the criminal justice system.

Objectives: At the conclusion of this course, students will know:

- 1) a variety of contemporary programs and movements directed toward controlling and reducing crime;
- 2) the relationships and impact of reform efforts to each of the components of criminal justice;
- 3) the impact of crime control and reduction efforts on society.

TERM III

CJ 610 Developmental Concepts and Planning: Towards a more effective system (3 credits)

Purpose: To provide students with a basis for recognizing the importance of, need for and methods of planning and research within the criminal justice system.

Objectives: At the conclusion of the course, students will know:

- 1) the role and importance of planning and research as tools for crime reduction and upgrading the criminal justice system;
- 2) the need for establishing agency and system goals and objectives and how to accomplish this;
- 3) procedures for problem analysis, collection and analysis of data, identifying alternatives, making selections and implementing recommendations;
- 4) techniques of planning;
- 5) research methodology;
- 6) evaluation;
- 7) grantsmanship.

CJ 611 Research Methods for Criminal Justice

This course is oriented toward Masters Students who may have little or no quantitative/qualitative research experience. Consideration is given to the varied backgrounds of students. A review of the major problems and issues and evaluations and experimental research will be offered with specific emphasis on the types of questions which are most frequently raised in the various elements of the Criminal Justice System. Students will be assisted in learning the strategies and the implementation of techniques to demonstrate their competencies and achieving their objectives. Briefly, the course will be arranged as follows:

- a) Importance of Research
- b) Deterministic vs. Probabilistic Reasoning
- c) Research Ethics
- d) Gathering Data and its Relevance
- e) Analysis of Research Data
- f) Writing up the Research

TERM II

CJ 602 Police Roles and Responsibilities (3 credits)

Purpose: To expose students to the complexities of defining and implementing the police role in society.

Objectives: Upon completing this course students will know:

- 1) the complexities of defining the role of law enforcement in society;
- 2) legal, political and practical factors affecting role definition, obligation, performance;
- 3) the effects of role definition on police authority;
- 4) the effects of role definition on performance, development and expectations of police personnel;
- 5) the need for articulation of the defined role within the agency and to the public;
- 6) the importance of, and procedures for, development of policies to articulate and effectuate the police role.

CJ 603 Issues and Trends in Judicial Administration (3 credits)

Purpose: To provide an awareness of the impact of the judiciary on the entire system of the administration of justice and to examine efforts to reform and upgrade judicial services.

Objectives: At the conclusion of this course, students will know:

- 1) the impact of judicial decisions on the operations and administration of the other components of the justice system;
- 2) the effects of the development and abandonment of the "hands off" doctrine as it relates to judicial supervision of criminal justice officials and agencies;
- 3) the major efforts to reform the courts, the bases for these movements and their successes and failures.

TERM IV

CJ 604 Post-judicial Strategies (3 credits)

Purpose: To acquaint students with the purposes, functions, issues and innovative programs and reforms of probation, corrections and parole (including youthful offender programs).

Objectives: At the conclusion of this course, students will know:

- 1) the roles and functions of corrections in the criminal justice system; the arguments for and against institutionalization and community-based programs as viable approaches toward the goals of corrections;
- 3) the legal and practical framework in which treatment and rehabilitation programs operate;
- 4) the bases and developments of legal rights of offenders.

CJ 605 Juvenile Justice (3 credits)

Purpose: To provide a foundation of philosophical, legal and contemporary material on offenses committed by and against juveniles.

Objectives: At the conclusion of this course, students will know:

- 1) historical, philosophical and legal framework in which the juvenile justice system operates;
- 2) the response of society and the justice system to problems such as delinquency, maladjustment, and battered children;
- 3) the roles and interdependence of police, courts, and rehabilitation departments with regard to the problems of juveniles in contact with the justice system.

TERM V

CJ 606 The Politics of Criminal Justice (3 credits)

Purpose: To provide students with an awareness of the role of internal and external politics in the criminal justice system.

Objectives: At the conclusion of this course, students will know:

- 1) the impact of political influence on roles, operations and administration of criminal justice agencies;
- 2) sources and relationships between authority and power as it affects the justice system;
- 3) the political influence of special interest groups on criminal justice;
- 4) the nature of political influence on legislative processes as related to crime issues;
- 5) the forces of internal politics as it affects individual and agency goals and operations and interagency cooperation and coordination.

CJ 607 Criminal Justice Personnel Administration (3 credits)

Purpose: To provide students with a foundation in the management of human resources within criminal justice agencies.

Objectives: At the conclusion of this course, students will know:

- 1) the status, issues, and trends regarding human resources management in criminal justice agencies in, at least, the following areas:
 - a) recruitment
 - b) selection
 - c) retention
 - d) training
 - e) education
 - f) personnel evaluation
 - g) promotional programs
 - h) disciplinary systems
 - i) incentive pay plans
 - j) unionization and collective bargaining

TERM VI

CJ 608 Organizational Behavior and Management Theory (3 credits)

Purpose: To provide students with an understanding of the background of research and contemporary thought and approaches to effective interpersonal relations in organization.

Objectives: At the conclusion of the course students know the essentials and practices in these areas:

- 1) behavioral theory and modern management;
- 2) leadership in organization—concepts and strategies;
- 3) supervision and supervisory effectiveness;
- 4) morale, the informal organization, and group dynamics;
- 5) motivation theory and motivational factors;
- 6) communication and organizational behavior;
- 7) management of change in organization;
- 8) organization development and the resolution of conflict.

CJ 609 Advanced Administrative Functions and Managerial Effectiveness (3 credits)

Purpose: To have students gain insight into the assessment of such functions and tools of administration and to develop a better understanding of managerial skills and effectiveness.

Objectives: At the conclusion of the course the students should be well-oriented to and able to apply knowledge of:

- 1) schools of management thought;
- 2) institutional objectives, goals, and management by objectives;
- 3) policy-formulation, policies, and planning;
- 4) administrative coordination, communication, and control;
- 5) problem-solving and decision-making;
- 6) organization—including the administration of decentralized agencies and line-staff relationships in organization;

- 7) delegation and the art of delegating—rationale, approaches, competencies;
- 8) budgeting in administrative planning and control—the budget cycle, format, process, and preparation.

Criminal Justice Practicum

A Nova Practicum is a project that promises to achieve improvements in a criminal justice agency. It is an action that addresses itself to a specific problem to the student's job.

A practicum may be an experiment or test project to ascertain whether a specific idea is valid or useful, but it must culminate in an action intended to effect improvement.

The performance of a practicum involves choosing an actual departmental problem, analyzing its causes, doing the research necessary to establish reasonable hypotheses on which to predicate action, and arriving at a practical solution.

In performing a practicum, the student applies his intellectual resources to enlarge his professional qualifications and contacts and, where applicable, to contribute toward advancing the standards of his profession.

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